

AUG 02 2005



Recipient: Examiner Van Kim Nguyen

Sent By: IP Dept

Company: USPTO

Company: Inter-Tel, Inc.

Fax Number: 815712733073

Fax Number: 480-961-8073

Voice Number: 571-272-3073

Voice Number: 480-961-9000

Date: 8/2/2005

Time: 11:54:57 AM

Total No. Pages: 3

Subject: 09/788,229

Message:

Examiner Van Kim T. Nguyen:

As we discussed, the following draft amendment is for your review.

Claims 1-9 cancelled

Claims 11,14,15 subject matter moved to independent claim 10.

Please contact me with any additional questions.

Michelle Whittington

480-961-9000 x21352

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out of 3*

Appl. No. 09/788,229
DRAFT CLAIM AMENDMENTS!

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended):

A method for supporting a real time communication for and between both a pulse code modulation (PCM) telephone network and an Internet protocol (IP) telephone packet network in an enterprise including the steps of:

providing a gateway responsive to calls from a calling party on either the IP telephone network or the PCM telephone network for answering calls;

obtaining directory prompt messages from an IP gateway;

[[playing directory prompt messages to the calling party;]]

responding to DTMF or voice recognition signals from the calling party
[[for]] and searching a directory database for [[obtaining]] a closest match of a name[[found in a directory database]];

playing the directory prompt messages to the calling party and audibly announcing the closest match;

negotiating an acceptable name with the calling party and prompting the calling party for acceptance of the closest match;

looking up an address translation in the directory database in response to the name selected by the calling party; and

attempting the real time communication to a called party utilizing the address translation corresponding to the name, if required.

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 10 wherein the step of negotiating an acceptable name includes the gateway prompting the calling party for a next name and a previous name of the closest match of the name found in the directory database.

Claims 13-14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10 [[further comprising searching the directory database for the closest match of the name,]] wherein the directory database comprising a plurality of databases of the enterprise relationally linked.

Claim 16 (cancelled)

acceptance of the name the translation database looks up a connection address for the name corresponding to the desired called party, and the system proceeds with a communication between the calling party and the desired called party.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The VOIP directory service system of Claim 17, wherein the approval prompt comprises a "find next" and a "find previous" prompt for the calling party to select.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The VOIP directory service system of Claim 17, wherein the look-up is from a plurality of directory service memories using a number of relational links to each of the directory service memories.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The VOIP directory service system of Claim 17 further comprising a PBX system coupled to the VOIP gateway and receiving